



BOROUGH OF EAST RETFORD.

ANNUAL REPORT

for

1939

by

DAVID S. CLARK  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.P.M.



Public Health Department,  
Yorkshire Penny Bank Buildings,  
Market Square,  
Retford.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses  
of the Borough of East Retford.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health of the Borough during the year 1939. The Report has been compiled in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Health in their Circulars 1961 and 2067.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

D. S. CLARK.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area .....	4,656 ac
Registrar General's estimate of resident population, mid-year 1939 ..	15,290
Number of inhabited houses .....	4,413
Rateable Value ( 1st April 1940) .....	£92,520
The sum represented by a penny rate .....	£355

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS -

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	209	105	104
Illegitimate	11	4	7

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population .....	14.5
Birth Rate of England and Wales per 1,000 population .....	15.0

STILL BIRTHS -

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	8	5	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Rate per 1,000 TOTAL Births .....	36.3
Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population .....	0.52
Rate per 1,000 population in England and Wales .....	0.59



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DEATHS -	Total	M.	F.
	205	89	116

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population .....13.4  
 Death Rate per 1,000 population in England and Wales ..... 12.1  
 Death Rate adjusted in accordance with the  
 Registrar-General's Areal Comparability Factor ..... 12.5

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths from Puerperal Causes -

Puerperal sepsis nil  
 Other puerperal causes nil.

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY -

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year	9	6	3
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 yr.	1	1	-

Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births .....45.3  
 Death Rate of Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 42.6  
 Death Rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births..90.9

MORTALITY. The deaths include those of 24 persons in institutions outside the Borough, 13 males and 11 females.

The above rates are calculated on the estimated population given by the Registrar General as 15,290, an increase of 100 over that for 1938.

The causes of death were:-

Diphtheria	1
Influenza	4
Encephalitis Lethargica	1
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	7
Other Tuberculosis	1
G.P.I., Tabes etc.,	1
Cancer	29
Diabetes	5
Cerebral hæmorrhage	18
Heart disease	37
Other circulatory diseases	8
Bronchitis	4
Pneumonia ( all forms)	13
Other respiratory diseases	2
Peptic ulcer	1
Cirrhosis of liver	2
Other liver diseases	3
Other digestive diseases	4
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	3
Congenital debility, premature birth etc.,	6
Senility	27
Suicide	3
Other violence	7
Other defined diseases	18

[illegible]



GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority. Owing to the increasing demands on the department due to war conditions, Miss Norma MacLeod M.B.,B.S., was appointed as Part-time Assistant Medical Officer of Health.

There was no important alteration in the provision or functioning of health services in the area during the year.

Child Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinic.

No. of sessions held during 1939 .....	115
No of sessions attended by the Medical Officer .....	62
No of children examined .....	973
No of mothers examined .....	250
Average no. of mothers and children examined each session..	11
No. of individual children attended centre .....	843
No. of visits paid by children to the Centre -	

under 1 year.....3,359

1-5 years .....5,915

Total .....9,274

No. of individual mothers attended Centre.....	640
No. of visits paid by mothers to Centre .....	6155
No. of visits paid by expectant mothers to Centre .....	441
No of individual ante-natal cases attended.....	123
No of individual post-natal cases attended .....	71

Visits paid by Health Visitor to:-

Children under 1 year of age .....1,855

Children between 1 and 5 years .....1,869

Total .....3,724

to Ante-natal cases .....387.

Services of a Consultant. During the year 22 expectant and nursing mothers were referred for Mr.Stacey's opinion.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply. Analyses of samples of water supplied by the Borough Water Undertaking were all satisfactory.

Sanitary Inspection. The work would appear to be well supervised by the Inspector, and I am satisfied that it is being efficiently carried out.

HOUSING.

174 dwelling houses were inspected for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts, 190 inspections being made for this purpose. 13 of these were found to be unfit for habitation, and 117 more not in all respects fit for human habitation. 112 defects were remedied without service of a formal notice. 20 defects were remedied by owners after service of a formal notice.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of 7 houses and 28 houses were demolished in pursuance of demolition orders during the year.

Overcrowding was dealt with under the Housing Act 1936, and no dwellings





were overcrowded at the end of the year.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease	Total Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.	Total Notified.		
				South Ward.	East Ward.	West Ward.
Scarlet Fever	12	11(b)	-	2	3	7
Diphtheria	6	6(b)	1	-	3	3
Pneumonia	30	-	13	11	8	11
Erysipelas	5	-	-	3	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2(c)	-	0	1	1
Measles	2	-	-	1	0	1
Whooping Cough	22	-	-	15	2	5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	11(d) 4(f) 1(a)	7	1	2	3
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	1(e)	1	2	2	0
Totals	89	36	22	35	22	32

(a) County Institution, Mansfield. (b) North Carlton Isolation Hospital.  
 (c) Jessop Hospital for Women, Sheffield. (e) Ransom Sanatorium, Rainworth  
 (f) Kilton Hill Sanatorium, Worksop.

Month	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Whooping Cough	Measles	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	TOTALS.
January	1	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
February	2	-	4	1	-	-	-	1	-	8
March	2	1	8	1	-	-	-	1	-	13
April	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
May	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	6
June	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
July	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
August	1	-	3	-	1	-	-	1	-	6
September	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	1	7
October	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
November	-	1	-	1	-	13	-	-	-	15
December	-	1	4	1	-	9	2	-	1	18
Totals.	12	6	30	5	2	22	2	6	4	89



TUBERCULOSIS 1939.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1
15 - 20	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
20 - 35	-	3	2	-	1	2	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
45 - 65	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS -	1	5	2	2	3	4	-	1

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1939.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my report upon the work done during the year 1939. 52 complaints were received and investigated, nuisances being found to exist in 47 cases.

116 informal notices asking for the abatement of nuisances were served during the year, and in 9 cases it was found necessary to serve statutory notices under the Public Health Act and in 6 cases notices were served under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Legal proceedings were instituted in two cases in order to enforce statutory notices and the nuisances were abated under order of the Courts. Proceedings also were taken under Section 85 of the Public Health Act 1936 in order to remove a verminous person to a Public Cleansing station and an order of the Court was obtained. The person concerned was thereupon removed by me to the County Institution and cleansed from vermin.

The outbreak of war in September curtailed most of our housing work and the only consolation is that so much has been done in the past few years.

The overcrowding was entirely abated and at the end of the year Retford

— 20 —

was quite free from legal overcrowding.

Meat and Food Inspection. This work has been carried out as usual. 1445 visits were paid to slaughterhouses, and 27,687 lbs of meat were condemned

Milk. During the year 146 visits were paid to dairies and cowsheds in the town. 8 notices to abate unsatisfactory conditions were served and all were complied with. 19 samples of milk were obtained and tested by the methylene blue or the bacterial count tests, and 5 were found to be unsatisfactory.

Infectious Disease. We again had a light year and only 101 visits were paid by me to houses for the control of infectious disease. 558 articles were disinfected by the steam disinfecter.

SUMMARY OF VISITS 1939.

To Slaughterhouses	1445
To shops and Stalls, re food inspection	378
To properties, re nuisances	159
To properties under notice	422
To dairies and cowsheds	146
To factories and workshops	29
To Bakehouses	14
To petrol and carbide stores	40
To premises re infectious disease	101
To offensive trades	27
To premises under the Housing Acts	184
To premises, re rats	23
To interviews with owners, etc.	129
Shops Act	47
Canal Boats	2
Common Lodging Houses	16
Miscellaneous visits	469
	<u>3,631.</u>

I am, Sir,  
Yours faithfully,

FRANK R. SMITH

Sanitary Inspector & Cleansing Superintendent

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